

**46<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE EUROPEAN WORKING  
GROUP ON PSYCHOSOCIAL ASPECTS OF CHILDREN WITH  
CHRONIC RENAL FAILURE  
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**PROGRAMS SUPPORTING  
PARENTS OF PAEDIATRIC  
PATIENTS ON  
TREATMENT**

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# INSTITUTIONS

- “Arabkir” Medical Center & Institute of Child and Adolescent Health (MC&ICAH) – republican reference center for children and adolescents
- Direct Aid Association (DAA) – local NGO, founded in 1997, running the only hospital school in the country and supporting the psychosocial services in the hospital



# BACKGROUND

- The interdisciplinary approach to the paediatric patient
- Quality services within the hospital
- Holistic approach to the patient - the support to the parent/care provider of the paediatric patient is not less important
- Armenia – not many social services are available and function according to a set up structure.



# SITUATION

- Arabkir - a paediatric reference center also for a number of patients from the regions of Armenia.
- Patients from the regions and their care providers, mainly mothers - cut off their families, away from their home and common routine
- New setting – the capital
- An important issue – financial challenge for a number of families of having a sick child on treatment



# PROGRAMS

- DAA - a number of projects and services aimed both at the paediatric patients and their care providers.
- Next slides will illustrate some of these programs and services.



# ILLUSTRATION

## 1. “Mother and Child” program

- Aimed at supporting the mothers while doing common activities with other mothers and children in the hospital



# ILLUSTRATION

## 2. Patient's Family House

- A special institution for the parents of the patients on treatment at Arabkir MC, where the parent is accommodated free of charge with all the basic conveniences.



# ILLUSTRATION

## 3. Summer Camp

- solves an essential social issue: it is a possibility for the children to rest for two weeks in a special rehabilitation camp site with an educational program.





# ILLUSTRATION

## 4. Special Educators' Club

- The parents who are teachers or other professionals related to the field of education can take part in the monthly workshops where they have a chance to learn new methods, techniques and approaches in teaching that can be used in their home schools upon return after the child is discharged from the hospital.



# ILLUSTRATION

## 5. Social Support Program

- We try to find funds to support the most underprivileged families with food, clothing, everyday basics.
- Currently - special social support project



# CONCLUSION

We understand that an established parent support approach within the state is needed. However, while this system is under construction and refinement in a country with a number of social issues, DAA, as a charity running social institutions in a paediatric hospital setting, is able to alleviate certain social issues the parents/care providers face while the child is hospitalized.

